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BLM To Hold Second Oil and Gas lease Sale of the Year April 20

Santa Fe-The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is offering oil and gas leasing rights on 75 parcels totaling 50,572.53 acres located on Federal lands in New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The oral auction will take place on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, at the **National Park Service**, 2968 Rodeo Park Drive West, Paisano Building, Cactus Room No. 2080, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505.

The BLM office will open to the public at 8:00 a.m. to allow each interested party time to obtain a bidding number. The sale will commence promptly at 9:00 a.m. Only oral bids offered at the sale will be accepted. Leases will be awarded to the qualified bidder offering the highest acceptable bid. The minimum acceptable bid is \$2.00 per acre.

The breakdown by State is as follows:

67 parcels totaling 47,908.69 acres in New Mexico;

6 parcels totaling 2,337.09 acres in Oklahoma;

2 parcels totaling 326.75 acres in Texas.

Leases will be awarded for a period of 10 years, or so long thereafter as there is production in paying quantities. The government receives 12 ½ percent royalties on production on those leases.

The State of New Mexico has received over **\$4 billion** in revenue from mineral production on federal public lands since the 1920s. More than \$3.6 billion of this total was received from oil and gas production on federal lands.

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